

2017

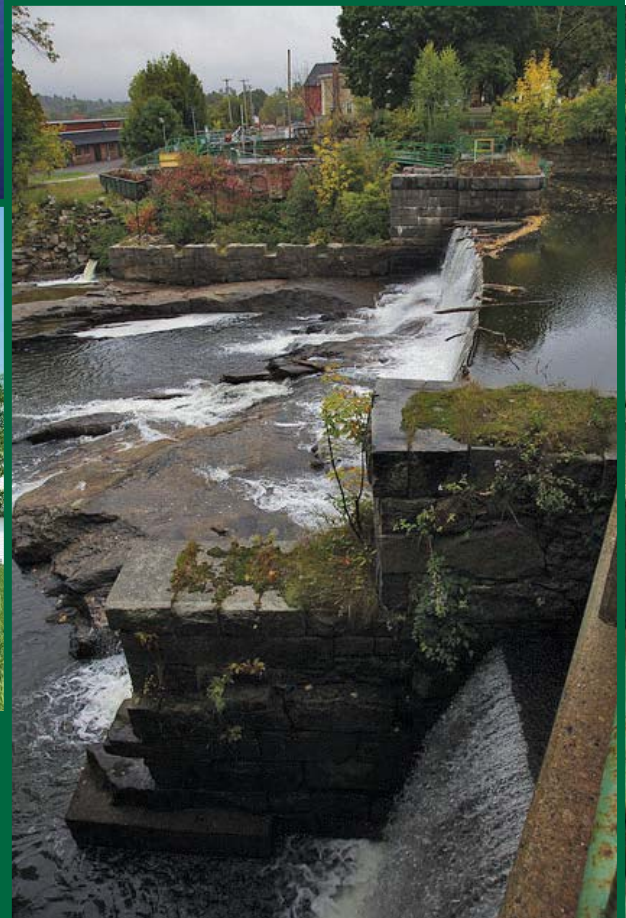
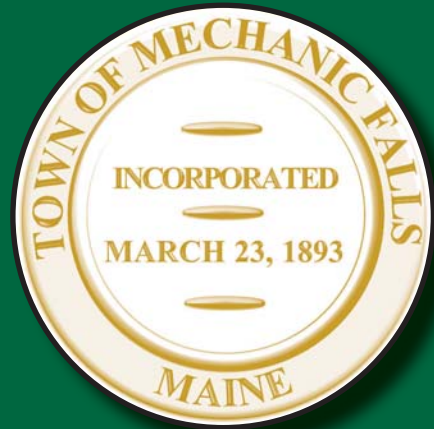
# Town of Mechanic Falls Annual Report 2016-17

Mechanic Falls, Me.

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# Annual Report 2016-2017

**TABLE of CONTENTS**

Annual Report Dedication / Spirit of America Award.....	4
Demographics.....	5
Tax Information .....	6
Hours of Operation.....	7
Town Office.....	7
Transfer Station .....	7
Library.....	7
Water Department.....	7
Meeting Schedules.....	7
General Information.....	8
Governance .....	8
Budget Adoption .....	8
Fiscal Year .....	8
Tax Payments .....	8
Vehicle Registrations .....	8
Dogs .....	8
Permits.....	8
Elected Officials (As of December 31,2016) .....	10
Appointed Committees.....	10-11
Elected Government Officials.....	12
Senator Susan Collins.....	12-13
Senator Angus King.....	13
Governor Paul Lepage.....	14
Senator Erik Brakey.....	15
Representative Kathleen Dillingham .....	16
Congressman Bruce Poliquin.....	17
Report of the Town Council .....	18
Report of the Town Manager .....	19
Municipal Department Reports .....	20
Animal Control.....	20

Code Enforcement & Planning.....	20
Emergency Management.....	21
Fire Department.....	21
General Assistance .....	22
Library .....	23-24
Police Department.....	25
Public Works .....	26
Solid Waste .....	27
Town Clerk .....	28-29
Santa For The Kids.....	30
Water Department.....	31
Responsible Pet Care.....	32
Committee Reports .....	33
Recreation Committee.....	33-34
Safety Committee .....	34
Municipal Revenues Received .....	35-36
Payments to Municipal Officials / Employees .....	36-38
Municipal Audit.....	39-42
Regional School Unit #16 .....	43
Whittier Middle School .....	44
Adult Education.....	45
Before and After School Program.....	46
Poland Regional High School.....	47
Elm Street Elementary School .....	48
Unpaid Property Taxes.....	49
Personal Property – 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 (1 <sup>st</sup> half) .....	49
Real Estate Liens – 2017.....	50
Real Estate - 2018 (1 <sup>st</sup> half) .....	50-51



# Annual Report

For the Year

January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Including the Financial Reports for the

Fiscal Year

July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017



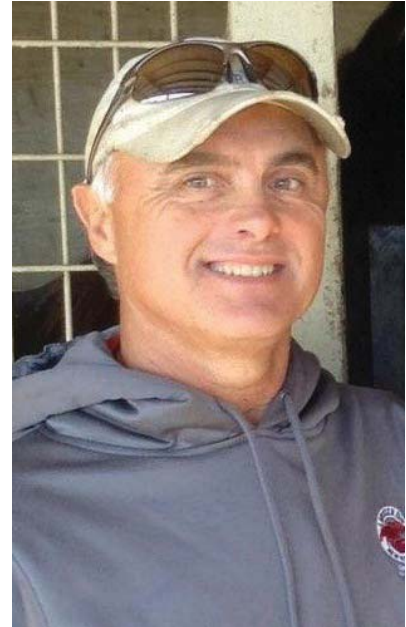
## Annual Report Dedication & Spirit of America Award 2018

### Ken Grant

Annually, the Town Council recognizes an individual for their contribution to the community with a dedication of the town report and the Town Council in addition selects an individual or group in the town who represents excellence in community service and volunteerism for the Spirit of America Award which was established in Maine in 1990.

The Spirit of America award honors volunteerism and community service by individuals living in Maine communities. This year the Town Council unanimously opted to confer both honors posthumously on Ken Grant for his commitment and dedication to the community he so passionately served.

Ken Grant was born Jan 6, 1955 in NY and moved to Maine in 1977 where he married and planted roots. He and his wife raised their family here in the area where Ken taught in the community for over twenty years, dedicated his time and energies to the Recreation Committee assuring the youth of Mechanic Falls have the opportunity to participate in healthy, team building activities.



Ken has been a pillar of the Mechanic Falls Community for the last 40 years and touched the lives of literally thousands of ball players, students, parents, teachers, citizens, and tourists. Each person has a wonderful and cherished story of their time spent with Ken.

He was a teacher in the community for over 20 years and later started a small lobster shack in the heart of the town. In a lot of ways, he was right at the center of Mechanic Falls. He knew everyone in town and made us all feel a special connection. He gave back to the community by donating his time and energy to all sorts of causes and could be counted on to be a referee or coach in a moment's notice for any sport for the Mechanic Falls Recreation Program. He had patience with children that captured their imagination, gave them confidence, and empowered them to be strive to be better players and people. Most importantly, they all called Ken their friend.

Ken was also always willing to take action, get dirty, and be the first to blaze a path to a better way by leading as the example. You could always ask for his advice regarding a bevy of the challenges that the world throws your way. He was never one to have a lot of words, but was always there to listen, help and give you his undivided attention.

Tragically, Ken passed away on April 1, 2017, before we were able to honor his dedication, sacrifice, and selflessness; however, we would like to recognize his efforts posthumously. The Mechanic Falls Community is proud to bestow these honors on Ken Grant.

Thank you, Ken Grant, for your dedication to the Town of Mechanic Falls and its residents.

## Demographics

MECHANIC FALLS

ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY

STATE OF MAINE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**INCORPORATED MARCH 22, 1893**

### **POPULATION BY CENSUS**

1980	2,589
1990	2,919
2000	3,138
2010	3,031

### **FORM OF GOVERNMENT**

Charter / Council / Town Manager

### **ALTITUDE**

Approximately 300 feet above sea level (downtown area) To about  
600 feet above sea level (Pigeon Hill area)

### **AREA**

Approximately 11.6 square miles Approximately 21.77  
miles of publicly maintained roads

### **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Regional School Unit #16 - Mechanic Falls / Minot / Poland Elm Street  
School, PreK-6

Bruce M. Whittier Middle School, 7-8  
Poland Regional High School, 9-12

## Tax Information

STATE VALUATION	
2005/06	\$125,500,000
2006/07	\$141,350,000
2007/08	\$155,700,000
2008/09	\$163,750,000
2009/10	\$166,150,000
2010/11	\$166,550,000
2011/12	\$158,550,000
2012/13	\$153,600,000
2013/14	\$146,900,000
2014/15	\$144,350,000
2015/16	\$150,500,000
2016/17	\$152,300,000
2017/18	\$155,150,000

TAX COMMITMENT	
2005/06	\$2,486,440
2006/07	\$2,562,732
2007/08	\$2,605,930
2008/09	\$2,556,611
2009/10	\$2,465,800
2010/11	\$2,539,785
2011/12	\$2,571,996
2012/13	\$2,815,379
2013/14	\$2,911,010
2014/15	\$3,062,745
2015/16	\$3,134,026
2016/17	\$3,144,796
2017/18	\$3,144,073

MUNICIPAL VALUATION	
2005/06	\$131,557,680
2006/07	\$135,568,928
2007/08	\$137,864,855
2008/09	\$139,705,496
2009/10	\$141,712,679
2010/11	\$144,717,137
2011/12	\$147,314,147
2012/13	\$147,178,523
2013/14	\$140,461,609
2014/15	\$142,411,547
2015/16	\$142,776,795
2016/17	\$146,055,324
2017/18	\$144,137,494

TAX RATE / \$1,000	
2005/06	\$18.90
2006/07	\$18.90
2007/08	\$18.90
2008/09	\$18.30
2009/10	\$17.40
2010/11	\$17.55
2011/12	\$17.55
2012/13	\$18.65
2013/14	\$20.40
2014/15	\$21.20
2015/16	\$21.40
2016/17	\$21.31
2017/18	\$22.00



## Hours of Operation

### Town Office

Monday & Tuesday.....	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday.....	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Thursday.....	8:30 AM – 5:30 PM
Friday.....	7:30 AM – 11:30 AM

### Transfer Station

Wednesday.....	Noon – 4:00 PM
Saturday .....	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Sunday .....	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

### Library

Monday & Wednesday .....	9:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Tuesday & Thursday .....	3:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Saturday .....	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

### Water Department

Monday – Friday .....	7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
-----------------------	-------------------

## Meeting Schedules

Board of Appeals .....	As Needed
Budget Committee .....	As Needed in March and April
Charter Commission .....	As Needed
Community Day Committee .....	January – June, Monthly
Development Commission .....	7 PM, Second Monday, Monthly
Fire & Rescue .....	7 PM, Second Monday, Monthly
Historical Society .....	7 PM, Third Wednesday, Monthly
Library Trustees .....	7 PM, First Thursday, Monthly
Planning Board .....	6 PM, Third Monday, Monthly
Recreation Committee .....	6 PM, Second Thursday, Monthly
Revenue Enhancement Committee.....	7 PM, Second Wednesday, Monthly
Safety Committee .....	9 AM, Quarterly
Sanitary District Trustees .....	7 PM, Fourth Monday, Monthly
Town Council .....	7 PM, First Monday, Monthly

## General Information

**Governance:** By Charter adopted in 1992, amended in 2010, five elected Councilors and an appointed Town Manager

**Budget Adoption:** Referendum Voting, Second Tuesday in June

**Fiscal Year:** July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>

**Tax Payments:** Property tax payments are due twice per fiscal year. The first half payment is due by the close of business day on October 15<sup>th</sup> and the second half due by the close of business day on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Interest is imposed for late payments, beginning the following day.

Property owners should notify the Town Office of changes to your property or structures on your property located in Mechanic Falls, by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Various Tax Exemptions are available to citizens. Please contact the Tax Office for further information.

**Vehicle Registrations:** *What to bring to the Town Office...*

Re-registration - bring the old registration, current proof of insurance and current mileage of the vehicle.

New Registration – (**dealer sale**) bring Bill of Sale showing sales tax was paid, Blue Title Application Form, Window Sticker, current proof of insurance and mileage on the vehicle.

New Registration – (**private sale**) bring Bill of Sale, current proof of insurance, Title (1995 Vehicle or newer) and Release of Lien (if applicable) and mileage on the vehicle.

New Registration - (**transfer**) bring Bill of Sale, current proof of insurance, Title (1995 Vehicle or newer) and Release of Lien (if applicable), current mileage on the vehicle, plus the Registration of the vehicle the Plates are transferred from

**Dogs:** All dogs must be licensed annually, by December 31, within the municipality of which their owner resides.

**Permits:** The Town of Mechanic Falls requires numerous permits for specific activities; please contact the Office at 345-2871 for more information. Not obtaining the proper permit prior to engaging in an activity is subject to fines and prosecution.

## Elected Officials (As of December 31, 2017)

Town Council	
Louis Annance, Chair	2018
Stephen Bolduc	2019
Cathy Fifield	2020
Kieth Bennett	2020
Nicholas Konstantoulakis	2018

Regional School Unit #16 Directors	
Jennifer Boenig	2018
Melissa Hodgkin	2018
Mary Martin	2019
Aaron Ouellette	2019
Jacques Wiseman	2020

Sanitary District Trustees	
Michael Baird, Chair	2019
Scott Penney	2020
Wayne Hackett	2018
Randall Plummer	2018
Gary Purington	2019

## Appointed Committees

Board of Appeals	
Thomas Walton	2020
Nancy Richard	2019
Martha Wiseman	2019
Vacant	
Vacant	

Budget Committee	
Lou Goulet	2021
Peter Ford	2020
Brian Ahlquist	2021
Travis Ritchie	2021
Bonnie Payette	2018
Thomas Walton	2019
Vacant	

**Community Day  
Committee**

Louis Annance

Jen Kyllonen

Miranda Hinkley

Beth Bowie

Lou Goulet

Devin Herbert

Jess Smith

**Historical Society**

James Craig 2019

Eriks Petersons 2018

Nancy Petersons 2017

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

Vacant

**Planning Board**

Paula Stotts 2020

Forrest Martin 2021

Lou Goulet 2019

Walter Goss 2020

Paula Stotts 2017

Vacant

Vacant

**Development  
Commission**

Mike Baird 2020

Brenda Coleman 2019

Stuart Davis 2018

Tim Dean 2020

Vacant

**Library Trustees**

Melinda Straight Assoc

Elizabeth Yates 2019

Jenn Durant 2019

Janice Earle 2019

Georgia Randall 2019

Paula Bolduc 2019

Vacant

**Recreation Committee**

Justin Starbird, Chair 2019

Scott Lessard, Vice 2020

Jay Bryant 2020

Robyn Coleman 2020

Nathan Edwards 2018

Craig Smith 2018

Jessica Cummings 2020

Amber Albison 2020

Vacant

Vacant

## Elected Government Officials

### Senator Susan Collins

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2623  
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES:  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON AGING,  
RANKING MEMBER  
APPROPRIATIONS  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate. I am grateful for the trust the people of our State have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to share some key accomplishments from this past year.

Maine has the oldest average age in the nation. As Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee, my top three priorities for the Committee are fighting fraud and financial abuse directed at our nation's seniors, increasing investments in biomedical research, and improving retirement security. Following the Committee's investigation into skyrocketing prescription drug costs, I authored bipartisan legislation to foster generic competition, which was signed into law. The Aging Committee's toll-free hotline (1-855-303-9470) makes it easier for seniors to report suspected fraud and receive assistance. To support the 40 million family caregivers in the United States, I am proud to have authored the RAISE Family Caregivers Act to create a coordinated strategy to support family members who make countless personal and financial sacrifices to care for their loved ones.

The opioid crisis touches families and communities across our state. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I fought for significant increases in funding to support community, law-enforcement, and public health efforts. In April, the State of Maine was awarded over \$2 million to fight this devastating public health crisis. Additionally, I have authored legislation to support grandparents and other extended family members who are raising grandchildren as a result of the nation's opioid epidemic.

Biomedical research has the potential to improve and save lives, and also supports good jobs at research facilities here in Maine. Last year, the Appropriations Committee approved a \$2 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health for the third consecutive year. This includes an increase of nearly 30 percent for research on Alzheimer's, our nation's most costly disease. As founder and co-chair of the Senate Diabetes Caucus, I work to raise awareness of the threats posed by diabetes, invest in research, and improve access to treatment options. My bill to establish a national commission of health care experts on diabetes care and prevention was signed into law in 2017.

We owe our veterans so much. Last year, I worked to secure the authorization of a Community-Based Outpatient Clinic in Portland to support the health care of Maine's veterans in the southern part of our state. I also worked to secure funding extensions to help veterans throughout rural Maine receive health care within their communities. I also worked to secure funding for housing vouchers for veterans to reduce veterans' homelessness.

Maine's contributions to our national security stretch from Kittery to Limestone. I successfully advocated for critical funding for projects at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for construction of an additional ship that will likely be built at Bath Iron Works. This funding will strengthen our national security and preserve great jobs in our state.

As chairman of the Transportation and Housing Appropriations Subcommittee, I worked to increase funding for the TIGER program that has provided Maine with more than \$122 million for vital transportation projects. For housing, I worked to provide \$160 million to help communities protect children from the harmful effects of lead poisoning.



Growing our economy remains a top priority. I supported the comprehensive tax reform bill because it will help lower- and middle-income families keep more of their hard-earned money; boost the economy; and encourage businesses, both small and large, to grow and create jobs here in Maine and around the country. This legislation contains key provisions I authored that are important to Mainers, including preserving the deduction for state and local taxes, expanding the deduction for medical expenses, and enabling public employees such as firefighters, teachers, and police officers, as well as clergy and employees of nonprofits, to make “catch-up” contributions to their retirement accounts. I led the effort to ensure that the tax cut will not trigger automatic budget cuts to Medicare or any other programs.

A Maine value that always guides me is our unsurpassed work ethic. As of December 2017, I have cast more than 6,500 consecutive votes, continuing my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve Androscoggin County and Maine in the United States Senate. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact my Lewiston office at 207-784-6969 or visit my website at [www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov). May 2018 be a good year for you, your family, your community, and our state.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

Senator Angus King

**Augusta Office**

4 Gabriel Drive  
Suite 3  
Augusta, Maine 04330  
(207) 622-8292

**Washington D. C. Office**

133 Hart Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5344

## Governor Paul R LePage



Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Dear Citizen of Mechanic Falls:

For the past seven years as your Governor, my priority has been to make Maine—our people—prosper. Helping you keep more money in your wallet by reducing taxes has been part of that mission.

Too many Maine families are facing skyrocketing property taxes that strain household budgets. Our elderly on fixed incomes are particularly vulnerable to these increases. School budgets are often blamed for annual increases in property taxes. But there's another reason. A tremendous amount of land and property value has been taken off the tax rolls, leaving homeowners to pick up the tab.

As of 2016, towns and cities owned land and buildings valued at nearly \$5.5 billion statewide. Large and wealthy non-profits, such as hospitals and colleges, often escape paying property taxes on their vast real estate holdings—totaling more than \$5.1 billion statewide.

In Maine, nearly 2.5 million acres of land have been set aside for conservation by the federal and state governments and non-profit organizations, including land trusts. Municipalities are losing out on property taxes on an estimated \$2 billion in land that has been either removed from the tax rolls or prohibited from development—shifting the cost of municipal services to local homeowners through higher property taxes.

It's time to recognize the results of taking property off the tax rolls and identify solutions to reduce the burden on our homeowners. My administration's proposals have been met with staunch resistance.

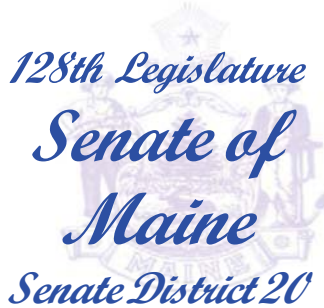
In 1993, about 35,800 acres of land were documented as land-trust owned. That number has increased by an astonishing 1,270 percent. Land trusts now control over 490,000 acres with an estimated value of \$403 million. We must restore the balance. We will be working this session to ensure all land owners are contributing to the local tax base. It's time for them to pay their fair share.

I encourage you to ask your local officials how much land in your municipality has been taken off the tax rolls, as well as how much in tax revenue that land would have been contributing today to offset your property taxes.

If ever I can be of assistance to you or if you have any questions or suggestions, I encourage you to contact my office by calling 287-3531 or by visiting our website at [www.maine.gov/governor](http://www.maine.gov/governor).

Sincerely,

*Paul R. LePage*  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor



**Senator Eric L. Brakey**  
 Chair, Health and Human Services  
 3 State House Station Augusta,  
 ME 04333-0003  
 (207) 406-0897  
[sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com](mailto:sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com)

### **Annual Report to the Town of Mechanic Falls**

A Message from Senator Eric Brakey

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to represent New Gloucester in the Maine Senate during the past three years. It has been an honor to work on your behalf to make our state an even better place to live, work and conduct business.

On August 2, 2017, Maine lawmakers adjourned, marking the end of the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. The Legislature was called back into session by the Governor on October 23rd to address a few issues deemed necessary. We reconvened for the Second Regular Session in January, 2018.

The Legislature took significant action last year by removing the tax increase that was imposed on Maine's small businesses, doctors and other professionals. I believe that had it been left in place, this tax presented a serious threat to the state's economy. At the same time, Maine voters indicated that they wanted more state revenue directed toward public education, and I am pleased to report that this Legislature passed one of the largest one-time increases in education spending in state history. Along with the increase in funding were numerous reforms aimed at ensuring more resources went directly to Maine classrooms.

Much of the 128th Legislature's work centered on the education surtax and several other ballot initiatives that were approved in November, 2016. Some of the issues we will be dealing with in the second session are continued work on adult cannabis legalization implementation, Medicaid expansion and the opioid epidemic.

While we accomplished much, there is still a lot of work ahead of us next session. Again, thank you for entrusting me to represent you in Augusta. Please feel free to contact me if you need my help in navigating the state bureaucracy. I can be reached in Auburn at 207-406-0897, in Augusta at 287- 1505, or by email at [sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com](mailto:sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric L. Brakey".

Senator Eric L. Brakey

Fax: (207) 287-1527 \* TTY (207) 287-1583 \* Message Service 1-800-423-6900 \* Website: [legislature.maine.gov/senate](http://legislature.maine.gov/senate)



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Kathleen R. J. Dillingham**

P.O. Box 164  
Oxford, ME 04270  
Residence: (207) 744-2153  
[Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov)

February 2018

Town of Mechanic Falls  
108 Lewiston Street  
Mechanic Falls, ME 04256

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It is an honor to serve you as your State Representative for House District 72. Last year we completed the longest legislative session in Maine history. I'm proud of the positive reforms to state government we were able to accomplish and our ability to move Maine forward. During our first session we were able to pass a balanced State biennial budget without raising taxes, lowering the tax burden on our small businesses, and reforming education.

During the Second Session of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature I continue to serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. Although we are limited to what is considered emergency legislation, over the next few months we will continue to tackle the many challenges facing our communities and the state today. Some of our most important issues include correcting our referendum process, implementing recreational marijuana, and developing more effective and unified plans to reduce drug use, its effect, and related crimes.

I was elected to the Maine Legislature on the promise to represent you, the people of District 72. To do this, I will be seeking your input regularly and want to hear from you with your comments and concerns. Please call me anytime at 744-2153 or email at [Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov) to keep me updated on those concerns. If you would like to be added to my weekly eNewsletter you may do so by emailing me directly with your request.

Again, thank you for giving me the honor of serving you in Augusta!

Sincerely,

Kathleen R. J. Dillingham  
State Representative

District 72 Mechanic Falls, Otisfield, and Oxford

Congressman Bruce Poliquin

**Lewiston Office**

179 Lisbon Street  
Lewiston, Maine 04240

207-784-0768 Fax 207-784-5672

**Washington D. C. Office**

426 Canon House Office  
Building Washington, DC  
20515

202-225-6306 Fax 202-225-2943



## Report of the Town Council

It is with great pleasure that I bring you the report of your Town Council. Our community is doing quite well. Our town is financially stable, and our business community is thriving. The Municipal budget has remained flat and we are happy to say that the budget is basically unchanged from last year.

We have finally seen the much-needed changes at the Five Corners intersections of Routes 11 and 26 and the new traffic lights making it safer. More changes are underway with the construction of a new Hannaford Supermarket and a much-needed Pharmacy. This will bring more tax revenue to our town.

Our town celebrates its 125<sup>th</sup> birthday this year and everyone is welcome to enjoy the festivities the first Friday and Saturday in June. Community Days continues to grow with new ideas from renewed interest of our citizens. Last year's parade was a huge hit and the downtown was filled with people having an enjoying all there was to offer. Look for new activities again this year. Your help is always appreciated.

All of our committees meeting dates are listed on our town web site and volunteers are always welcome.

Each year brings new challenges and your Town Council does what it feels best for the citizens of Mechanic Falls. Voters approved the purchase of the CMMC building in our downtown and we are excited to get the renovations to the town's new municipal building under way. We revisited our Fireworks ordinance and held two public hearings to hear concerns of the current ordinance and took suggestions for changes. Voters will decide on the ordinance in June.

We have a great staff that works for our community and volunteers who do as well. I want to thank them all. They work hard and take a lot of pride in what they do. We have a great Fire / Rescue department and the best Public Works any town could ask for. Our Public Library continues to strive and our attendants at the transfer station go above and beyond. This Town Council appreciates everyone working for our town, those who serve on our boards and committees and all other volunteers. We are lucky to have them.

Lou Annance

Town Council Chairman

## Report of the Town Manager

As I prepare to write this report I am amazed how quickly the year has passed. It seems like I just wrote one of these until I take a look back and reviewed everything we have accomplished this year. As each year comes and goes, we are faced with unique challenges that test our abilities. These situations force us to do more with less and in 2017 everyone involved with the town budget process looked at the revenues vs expenses and tried to control spending. A budget was put forth to the residents that was a basic survival budget for all departments as we hoped for future growth in Mechanic Falls to offset the rising costs of running local government.

As the town looked to hope for 2017, plans began for the annual Community Day events. One hope was to see more activity in Mechanic Falls over the summer months. It was wonderful to see residents out of their homes, participating in community events and enjoying the fun/food of the day. Community Day was a great success and before 2017 ended, planning was already underway for Community Day 2018 which will celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the town.

The summer brought with it a very successful summer camp program with the largest enrollment to date. The children did great daily activities along with specially organized travel events to the movies and the beach. The recreation committee had a busy spring/summer softball/baseball season and prepared for the fall soccer program.

Over the summer, we lost our tax clerk Angie Grenier as she returned to school to expand her options. The town hired in her place Julie Ward, who has been an asset to the office. Originally from Mechanic Falls, she knows the area and many of our residents. The town saw the retirement of Lieutenant Paul Harrison and the promotion to Sargent for James Daigle.

The June Election day saw the town and school budgets pass along with a change to the Town Council. We welcomed new town council member Kieth Bennett and thanked Wayne Hackett for his dedication to the town.

The Rescue was in the process of obtaining a new more convenient vehicle for emergency response and this vehicle was received and is on the road. The Fire Department and Rescue also have expanded their mutual aid to Minot and will be toned out simultaneously.

It was with sadness that we heard of the closing of the only town medical facility but it has provided the opportunity for the town to pursue a new municipal complex location more convenient to residents. After passionate hearings, the November election proved that residents recognized the need and overwhelmingly supported the change. A building committee was established to help in the transition process.

It was with great excitement as well that Hannaford officially announced the opening of their newest facility in Mechanic Falls at the intersections of Rt 11 and Rt 26. The community is excited to welcome the new business and the opportunity for pharmacy services to return to the area. This facility will be open over the summer of 2018.

So as the year ended, the hopefulness we all held in the beginning of 2017 gave us all a sense of an amazing year. Thank you to everyone who works or volunteers for the town. You are the ones who make the wheels of government move forward. Thank you for the residents for having faith in your local government to do right by your commitment to the town.

Yours in service,

Koriene Low, Town Manager

## Municipal Department Reports

### Animal Control

It is the responsibility of the Animal Control Officer (ACO) to respond to, and investigate, complaints from citizens concerning domestic animals. Duties include containment and transport of stray, sick/injured, feral/unwanted and captured (domestic) animals. If necessary, the Officer will set traps to capture evasive domestic animals. The ACO also performs emergency animal rescue service.

Generally, I visit the town on a daily basis. This past year, I handled 273 complaints (15 animal trespass, 5 animal bites, 28 dog retrievals and 41 cat complaints)

If you are in need of assistance from the Animal Control Officer, please contact the Town Office at 207-345-2871. If the animal in question is not a domestic animal, please contact the Maine State Warden Service at 1-800-228-0857

\*\*\*\* Rabies is Fatal: For your safety, please vaccinate your dogs and cats. \*\*\*\*

Robert Larrabee  
Animal Control Officer

### Code Enforcement & Planning

Code Enforcement report for 2017. It has been a pleasure working for the Town of Mechanic Falls. I have found that the staff and the community volunteers have a special kind of commitment for the Town of Mechanic Falls. I also would like to compliment the Fire Department, Highway Department, Police Department, Water and Sanitary Departments for their hard work that makes Mechanic Falls a special kind of place and all should feel at peace knowing they are here to serve you.

I would like to report that there has been positive growth including several new homes and garages, as well as several small businesses including commercial buildings, and a new Hannaford Supermarket that includes a pharmacy located at five corners and will have positive impact for the community for many years to come.

I would like to remind all homeowners to install reflective house numbers of a minimum of 4" inches within 50' (fifty) feet from roadway for the safety of you and your children in case of any emergency.

Please contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Fred S. Collins Jr  
Code Enforcement

## Emergency Management

This year we have been lucky in comparison to other towns in the county and state who received damage due to natural disasters. I believe this is partly luck and partly due to preparedness from town departments. Public works repairing old culverts and ensuring ditches are deep enough to handle run off, coupled with the Police and Fire Departments' assistance with notifying citizens well in advance of emergencies helps relieve residents from damage. The town has received federal grants to be used for communication equipment for the Police and Fire Departments which has greatly helped out. The town is updating its Hazard-mitigation plan this year with help from county EMA. This plan identifies problem areas in town which keeps us qualified for grants to help out from the federal government. As town EMA director, I would like to thank you all for being prepared in the event that we are hit with a big storm, whatever its cause. Please remember to have at least 72 hours (3days) of supplies, including medications, in an emergency kit, emergency contacts, and a place to go for shelter. If you've got pets, have the same provisions for them, plus a travel cage for transportation. It sounds like a lot, I know, but it really isn't and be prepared will make your life easier in times of struggle. Thanks to all for being ready.

Fred C. Sturtevant III  
EMA director

## Fire Department

Hi from the Fire Department, hope all is well for all of you with warm weather here now, since I'm writing this in Feb. This year's budget increased slightly due to the increases in the minimum wage by law and for the cost of County Automated Response Software. The EMS/Fire Crews and I try to keep costs down as we really appreciate the support you give us. Please don't be afraid to stop by let us show you around. Like all Fire Departments in the state, we have a problem keeping firefighters. It seems we just get them trained and they either relocate, a new job comes along, or the qualifications to remain employed by the department become too much with busy family life. We manage with assistance from nearby towns, this is why you may see other towns at Mechanic Falls emergencies and vice versa. The vehicles are being maintained well, the new pickup is a great asset with 4wheel drive, and the replacement rescue vehicle should be on the road by the time you read this. We down sized the rescue vehicle as it was time for it to be replaced and we do not transport patients, this allowed us to spend less. We feel the replacement should work out well for the department and town.

Just a reminder to make sure your address is visible from the road, both night and day, so we are able find your house quickly in an emergency. Use whatever you like for numbering, as long as it can be seen. We are thankful for your support, as well as the support we get from the other departments in town, which makes our job easier to manage. Take care and be safe.

Fred C. Sturtevant III  
Fire Chief

## General Assistance

Hello to the citizens of Mechanic Falls!

In the calendar year ending 12/31/16 we spent \$0.00 in General Assistance. There was a slight increase in our General Assistance outlay this year; in calendar year ending 12/31/17 we spent \$3,316.00 in General Assistance.

Earlier this year, I assumed the role of Salvation Army representative for the Mechanic Falls unit. This gives me an additional resource with which to assist our citizens by being able to provide necessities such as gas, utilities, food and medications to citizens of Mechanic Falls, (and other surrounding Towns), who might not necessarily be eligible for General Assistance, at no cost to our taxpayers.

It is truly a pleasure to serve the people of Mechanic Falls. I would like to express appreciation to our Town Manager Koriene Low and to the Mechanic Falls administrative staff, including Town Clerk Miranda Hinkley, Finance Director Lisa Prevost, and CEO Fred Collins for assisting me in my service to the Town. Because I serve Mechanic Falls primarily by phone, fax and email, I rely on the prompt and efficient service of the administrative staff. They serve as a wealth of information for me in referring recipients to workfare for the Town, verifying rental agreements, and for helping to refer our citizens in need to other local resource available in the community.

Until next year!

Shannon Moxcey,  
Mechanic Falls General Assistance Administrator



## Library

### Annual Report of the Mechanic Falls Public Library 2017

2016-2017 has been an active year.

The Library Association has six active members and held a book sale and a pie sale this past year. They remain dedicated to improving the options to the residents of Mechanic Falls. The Library Association saw the resignation of one of our most active members, Martha Wiseman. Martha was secretary and then vice president for quite a few years. We miss her wise council.

Our Children's Story Hour continues to meet weekly on Monday morning from 9:30 to 10:30. We have two stories and a seasonally appropriate craft. It is a good time for the younger children to learn their listening skills and a time for the parents to meet and talk while the storytime is going on. All are welcome.

We have a core group of patrons for our book discussion group that meets the second Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7. Our books chosen are varied, and are distributed the month before the discussion group meets. Check at the library to see what we are reading for that month.

Summer reading's theme was "Build a Better World". The theme related to science, math and technology. We had Mondays as a project day. Our projects ranged from "small motor" airplanes to the Solar Eclipse and making viewing boxes. We discussed internet safety and safety at home. The Sea Dogs donated a free child's ticket to a game for each child that signed up, and Gifford's Ice Cream donated a free kid's cone for each Summer Reading club participant.

The Mechanic Falls Public library had 3,337 patron visits this past year. We had 2,509 Adult Fiction and Non-fiction books circulate, 390 Inter-library loan books circulate and 54 e-books from the cloud library downloaded. Our Adult reading group saw 57 people attending. We circulated 399 DVD's during the year. Children's books circulated 2902 times and we had 201 children attend our programs, summer and winter. The library has 3 public computers and one lap top that were used a total of 373 times. Six hundred and sixty five reference questions were asked. By using the information available and applying it to the "library use calculator", our library services to the Town of Mechanic Falls has an estimated value of \$112,653.00.

We have new books coming in monthly, and any books that are not available at our library can usually be accessed through our inter-library loan system. Stop by, get a card, and learn about what we offer our residents.

Thank you for letting me serve you as your Library Director.

Nancy L. Petersons

## Police Department

The Mechanic Falls Police Department has been dealing with crimes at similar paces to years past. Crimes are reported to the appropriate State and Federal agencies as Two Groups; Part A Crimes with sub Groups of Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property and Crimes Against Society, and Part B Crimes.

The Group A Crimes Against Persons include Rape, Fondling, Assault, Intimidation and Statutory Rape. We saw an overall decrease this year of 26%. The two areas of interest are simple assaults being down 71% (24 in 2016 and 7 in 2017). The other area is Intimidation being up 30%.

The Group A Crimes Against Property saw an 11% decrease with a total of 50 crimes reported in this area. That is 6 fewer than 2016.

The Group A Crimes Against Society saw a 44% decrease with the 60% decrease in Drug and Drug equipment violations. This decrease is largely due to the legalization of marijuana.

Our Group B Crimes have seen a 5% increase. The Driving Under the Influence cases have nearly doubled from 14 in 2016 to 22 in 2017.

I am happy to report that the overall Crime Rate is down this year in Mechanic Falls.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday were the days of the week with the highest reporting of Offenses to be investigated. The police department handled calls during every hour of the 24-hour period during the year. Although the call volume is lower we still have calls for service through the early AM hours of the day. We are often first on scene for Rescue calls as well. It means a great deal to the person in medical distress, who often is all alone, to have that officer with them. We are usually able to do things when we get on scene to help expedite the process for when the Rescue personnel do arrive. This helps to get the patient the care they need in a faster manner. The other side of that is we are there to protect our Rescue personnel as they never know what kind of a situation they are walking into in the middle of the night when there are often only 1 or 2 of them.

We have again had a strong number of traffic violations in town. We made 1094 vehicle stops for traffic violations and issued 215 citations. 879 warnings were issued. We have been very generous by giving motorists warnings. Our goal is for motorists to comply with laws on their own without issuing a ticket. We are very aware that the fines for traffic violations are expensive and many people cannot afford to pay the fine and make ends meet at home. We hope that they take that into consideration before violating the traffic laws. I get calls every week from our citizens requesting traffic enforcement on their streets for various reasons. We are out there doing the job we are supposed to do. Please OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS. We handled 88 Crashes (Increase of 10 over last year). November (14) and February (12) were the two highest months for crashes. Pleasant Street (18) had the highest number of crashes.

As always, I encourage the citizens to be actively involved in the safety of your community and report crimes or suspicious activity. We are a 24/7/365 Police Department. You may not find anyone at our office located in the Town Office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor but there is always an Officer on duty. The Androscoggin Sheriffs' Department provides our dispatching. If you call them when you need an officer they will dispatch a Mechanic Falls Police Officer to the call. Thank you for your support. Please do your part to keep our town safe.

Jeffrey Goss, Chief of Police

## Public Works

This past year at Public Works was a very busy one. During all of the four seasons we dealt with some weather issues and had a lot of work to be done. The winter brought us a moderate amount of snow and a couple storms reached nearly three feet of snow, but cold weather during those storms kept the snow fluffy. We were on the road around 70 times from December until April dealing with some kind of winter weather, not including the snow we hauled from the downtown. The snowfall grand total was 131 inches. There was very little sand left and hardly any salt. It was nice to see spring arrive.

I am seeing the Public sand pile being abused by many people and this needs to be addressed. I am not sure what we are going to do, but because of a few taking far too much sand, others will have to put up with whatever measures we take.

The bad thing about spring is that it's time to clean up the sand around town and that is a miserable job. In addition, we have to wear respirators because of the silica in the sand. The best thing is that the town looks real nice when it's done. Paint striping is then done around town and that takes a few weeks weather permitting and then we get started on any projects we have for the summer.

This past summer one of the big culverts on Lane road was changed, trees were cut in the area and a better slope was created on both sides of the culvert to help with erosion. We also helped the sanitary district take the storm water out of the sewer on Judson St. and put in a new catch basin half way down the hill. My guys enjoy these types of jobs and they come up with some great ideas. When we are not doing special jobs we are ditching, a job that is never done.

All the mowing and trimming of the ballfields down back is handled by Public Works and keeping up with that is a task in itself, so we always get someone to help with it in the summer and if it gets too much we will all go mow. We also take care of the parks uptown and the two small cemeteries in town.

There is never a quiet moment at Public Works, but myself and my crew love the challenge. I have a great crew and I enjoy going to work with them every day. We spend more time together than we do at home in the winter, so it's great that we get along so well. We take great pride in our trucks and equipment which I hope gets noticed because it is a lot of hard work keeping them clean and cared for.

If anyone has road, driveway or drainage issues do not hesitate to contact us and we will see what we can do. Thank you for the continued support.

Scott R. Penney,  
Director, Public Works

## Solid Waste

Recycle, recycle, recycle, that is the mindset that I would like for all who use the transfer station. The more materials that are recycled, the less the impact on our environment and the less money it costs the town for removal. This past year the transfer station crew worked hard at getting more residents to recycle. With the reduced hours of operation, it was more difficult at times to watch and see who wasn't doing their part. Thank you to all who have made recycling a habit this year.

The following figures, in tons, are the amounts we transferred for disposal/recycle:

	(2017)	(2016)
Bulky Waste	10.95	9.24
OCC (corrugated cardboard)	32.99	32.36
Newspaper/magazines	14.53	20.1
#1 and 2 plastics	5.03	5.11
Loose mixed paper	22.6	20.23
Tin/aluminum cans	4.77	4.54
MSW (Solid waste)	368.89	454.25
Clear glass	3.84	7.2

As you can see by the figures above, some tonnages for this past year went up and some were down as compared to 2016.

We also recycled 375 tires, 24 fire extinguishers, 76 propane tanks, 19.98 tons of scrap lumber, and 82 appliances containing refrigerant. Brush removal cost us \$2530.

We continue to separate metals as best we can in order to get the most from the salvage income. For 2017 we received \$7298.79 from metal sales.

The Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) continues to provide a means for the disposal of household hazardous wastes. They no longer accept paint; it must be taken to the Depot Square Hardware and Variety store. Contact the Transfer Station for more information or directions.

Les Johnson  
Transfer Station Manager



## Town Clerk

The trend continues to show increased business in the Town Clerk's Office. The 2017 year was another busy year for us. We continue to maintain all town records, issue licenses/registrations for IF&W and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. I also provide administrative support for various departments and committees. Technology continues to improve and we will add additional functions this year. We do accept credit/debit cards, but keep in mind, the bank charges you a 2.75% fee for processing cards. We offer online renewals for Motor Vehicle registrations. You can use this service if you have an excise taxable vehicle either commercial or passenger (less than 12,000 pounds GVW) or non-excise taxed trailer (such as a utility trailer). In order to utilize this feature, you will need to have your current yellow registration, your current insurance card and the vehicle's current mileage with you. Any changes (i.e. address, name change, etc.) cannot be processed online. The service is available to you at <http://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapidrenewal/>.

We had a successful rabies clinic with Dr. Frechette in January. Please remember State Law requires you to license your dog every year before December 31<sup>st</sup>. The fee is \$11.00 for male/female or \$6.00 for spayed/neutered. There is a late fee of \$25.00 assessed for all dogs not licensed before February 1<sup>st</sup> in addition to the regular license fee.

I am continuing to attend classes toward my certification as Town Clerk. Although certification is not required, I feel in order to better serve the Town, I should continue to obtain training as available. I am striving to be an exceptional Municipal Clerk. Julie Ward, Deputy Clerk, will attend trainings throughout the year to become even more efficient. She was hired on this past year and picked up the information extremely quick. She has been an asset to this office already.

The 2017 Elections presented a good turn-out. Our budgets were passed in one attempt, saving the town money for additional deliberations and elections. You passed a request to purchase a new building by majority vote. This building will house the Municipal Administrative Staff, Police Department, and Library. Thank you to all who came out to say hello and cast your vote.

I'd like to publicly thank Lisa Prevost and Julie Ward for their assistance in the Clerk's office. Both are sworn as Deputy Clerks and strive to provide seamless assistance in my absence and during busy times in the office. I could not imagine the added stress I would have if they were not so competent and eager to assist in the clerk's office.

Please be sure to check out Mechanic Falls website to keep up to date on the Council meeting minutes or new and upcoming events in town. <http://www.mechanicfalls.gov/office.com/>, and contact me at any time with questions or concerns at 207-345-2871.

Miranda Hinkley  
Town Clerk

### Interesting statistics for 2017 from the Town Clerk's Office:

#### Voting- 2135 Active Voters

551 Democrats  
588 Republicans  
95 Green Independents  
13 Libertarians  
888 Unenrolled voters

#### Vital Statistics -

23 Marriages  
26 Births  
30 Deaths

**Inland Fisheries & Wildlife -**

222 Hunting Fishing Licenses  
 108 Boat Registrations  
 106 Snowmobile Registrations  
 122 ATV Registrations

**Animal Welfare –**

455 Total Dogs Licensed  
     68 Unaltered  
     387 Spayed / Neutered  
 5 Kennel licenses

**Motor Vehicle –**

1627 Total Motor Vehicle Transactions  
     1388 Processed in office  
     239 Processed online

**Business Licenses -**

33 Various License and Permits issued

**Our condolences to the Families and Friends of our 2017 departed...**

Geraldine B. Barnard	85	05/10/2016	Carolyn L. Lisewski	88	07/24/2016
Shaun M. Bennett	34	02/07/2016	Veronica J. Lowe	65	12/24/2016
Fernand P. Chasse	63	01/04/2016	Bruce R. McIntosh	71	10/31/2016
Darrell W. Clark	54	02/29/2016	Renne R. McKeen	91	10/31/2016
Richard E. Clukey	89	12/24/2016	Lula B. Meserve	96	12/21/2016
Charles W. Crabtree Sr	72	12/21/2016	Kevin J. Perry	60	04/03/2016
Harriet M. Driscoll	93	10/16/2016	Elaine M. Potter	88	05/15/2016
Marion E. Flint	88	11/30/2016	Arlene J. Reynolds	60	10/26/2016
Brian C. French	72	11/14/2016	Mark A. Salmons	58	12/11/2016
Frederick H. Gagne Sr.	93	05/25/2016	Jay M. Siegel	65	06/23/2016
Gary Gravel	65	03/31/2016	John M. Swanson	72	05/28/2016
Ronald Hebert	67	08/24/2016	Betty J. Thurlow	80	04/19/2016
George Jones	55	10/19/2016	Kendall L. Thurlow	86	05/01/2016
Gloria L. Larkin	63	02/09/2016	Anna L. Walker	66	06/20/2016
Charlene A. Libby	38	10/23/2016	Frances A. Williams	59	01/28/2016

**Congratulations to our newly married residents of 2017...**

John Greenhalgh & Lauren Poniatowski	02/29	Daniel Pulkkinen & Alisha Martin	03/07
Bruce Allen & Wynona Johnson	03/17	Charles Mundell & Jennifer Boston	04/06
Douglas Barbato & Stephanie Gould	06/21	Theresa Merrill & Robin Blethen	06/25
Lee Clark & Cindy Richardson	07/02	Robert Allen & Cheri Lavoie	07/12
John Botellio III & Megan Lyons	07/16	Tina Tufts & Nicole Deschaine	07/22
Rielly Bryant & Jessica Berube	08/05	Earle Porter III & Jennifer Jimino	08/20
Neil Corriveau Jr & Denise Annett	08/28	Christopher Strout & Casey Gile	09/10
Ryan Turcotte & Kristen Snider	09/10	Eric Friree & Penny Carr	08/06
Dawn Rideout & Brittany Pearl	09/24	Kevin Thurlow-Latham & Linsey Letellier	09/17
Carl Labbay & Kyelynn Billon	10/01	Dustin Clavet & Chelsea Toth	10/08
Richard Conway & Glynnis Nadel	10/08	Timothy Gray & Amy O'Neil	10/17
Sean Barnaby & Courtney Stowe	10/22		

**Congratulations also to our residents who welcomed a little bundle of joy in 2016.**

We cannot disclose names, however, there were 26 families who welcomed children this year.

## Santa for the Kids

Twenty-six years running and another successful year. Shopping was fun, challenging and rewarding all at the same time. We had 13 families requesting help, a total of 38 children. The Community pulled together donating a whopping \$3208.61 for our program. Local businesses and organizations donated, individuals dropped by with donations and residents donated money at Future Foods. In addition, Future Foods collected money for Poland and Minot programs as well. Steve Berry, owner of Future Foods, spearheaded the requests and collection of Corporate Sponsors along with his customer donation program.

We tried to grant as many of the children's requests as possible, they were also given hats and mittens, coloring book and crayons, and some small trinkets for stockings. The gifts were wrapped thanks to Julie Ward, I could never have completed everything without her assistance.

Those wishing to make donations for next year can drop new, unwrapped toys, clothes, bedding, gift cards, or check/cash at the Town Office at any time throughout the year. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Miranda Hinkley, Program Coordinator

SPECIAL THANKS to all of the following people for your generous donations. Every donation, small or large, is what makes this program possible.

### Gold Level (\$500)

Future Foods  
Electrostatic Technologies  
Rainbow Federal Credit Union

### Bronze Level (\$250)

Day Motors  
Sons of the American Legion Post 150  
Bryant Energy  
Charles & Dorothy Bouchles

### Silver Level (\$100+)

Dr. Warren & Mrs. Frechette  
Physicians Professional Mgmt. Corp  
Bozzuto's Inc  
Bruns. Bros  
Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion #150

### Silver Cont.

Depot Square Hardware  
Oakhurst Dairy  
Down East Machine (DEME)  
Pepsi  
Frito Lay  
Tom Verrill Builder  
Mulberry Farms  
Chandler Funeral and Cremation Services  
Parent Lumber

### Additional Sponsors

Knights of Columbus  
The American Legion Post 150  
Mark & Paula Stotts  
The Silver Spur  
Anglican Church

ALSO THANK YOU KINDLY TO ALL THE INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE DONATED GIFTS, TIME, OR MONEY TO THIS PROGRAM FOR THIS YEAR AND YEARS PAST.

## Water Department

This was a quiet year for us with very little construction going on. As always, we started the year out with snow removal around the hydrants. We would like to thank those of you that help keep the snow away from the hydrants. We have one hundred and five hydrants to maintain. So, when you help us with snow removal we really appreciate it.

We were contacted by the owners of Northern Springs Trailer Park in Poland. They are having problems meeting the State's regulations on water quality. They are also having trouble keeping up with the volume of water they need for the park. As we first investigated this, we found that they could in fact connect to our system. This would have been beneficial for them and our system as well. A few years ago, when Route #26 was rebuilt, we inherited ten thousand feet of water main stretching from the high school to the RSU#16 office. This pipe has only one feed coming from the area of the high school. We knew that, at some point, we would need storage on this new pipe. The location of the trailer park is perfect for us to install a small reservoir to complement our system. At the writing of this report we are anxiously waiting to see if we qualify for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). This project is estimated to cost just over one half million dollars and will be completely covered by the grant. Not only will we get a new underground storage tank, but also a large customer account and provide the Town of Poland with two more fire hydrants.

We finally found out who would occupy the lot at the intersection of South Main Street and Pigeon Hill Road. It is Hannaford's Supermarket. Construction will start in 2018 and we will gain a good customer from it.

Most everyone knows that I fell from a ladder and broke my back this fall. I was out of work about eight weeks. Utilities must provide coverage seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. Tony Corey and Jake Verrill stepped up to insure we had coverage. Augmenting their efforts were the crew from the Sanitary District who helped fill in, so Tony and Jake could have some needed time off. Once again, I would like to remind the townspeople of the great cooperation that takes place between the Water Department, the Highway Department and the Sanitary District. We share manpower and equipment throughout the year to make sure our projects get done.

Respectfully,

Stephen French  
Director, Water Department



## RESPONSIBLE PET CARE OF OXFORD HILLS, INC.

### Shelter & Adoption

9 Swallow Road, Paris Maine

[www.rpc.petfinder.com](http://www.rpc.petfinder.com) ~ Facebook

Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills, Inc. is a non-profit, 501-C3 organization that provides a no-kill shelter for homeless cats and dogs located at 9 Swallow Road in Paris. We are equipped to provide treatment and shelter for up to 100 felines and 20 dogs. All cats and dogs are adopted into approved homes for reasonable adoption fees. All are spayed/neutered, vaccinated, tested and flea treated. In 2017, we adopted out or returned to owners nearly 700 cats and dogs from our shelter.

“RPC” has agreements with the Towns of Norway, Paris, Oxford, Otisfield, Woodstock, West Paris, Greenwood, Hebron, Buckfield, Mechanic Falls, Poland, Gilead, Milton Township and Bethel to take strays. We accept owner surrender cats and dogs when cage/kennel space allows, as well as transfers from other shelters.

- Did you know? One unspayed female cat is capable of producing 20+ kittens per year for most of her life, female kittens start reproducing as early as 6 months of age, *and* siblings will breed. This is why it is so important to spay, neuter and report strays to the animal control officer.
- Did you know? Each time a dog gives birth to puppies it takes two years off her life. When you purchase a puppy, be conscious of where it comes from. Do not support “puppy mills”. In “puppy mills”, female dogs are bred too often, puppies may be sold too young and dogs may be kept inhumanely. They may be sick or become sick. Be very careful if you purchase a pet on line.
- Did you know? It is unlawful to sell a puppy or kitten before the age of 6 weeks. It is also required that a breeder and/or pet dealer provide the buyer of the puppy or kitten with a written disclosure indicating their history, including healthy records.

Responsible Pet Care can direct you to resources for low cost spay and neuter for dogs and cats. The State of Maine FIX ME spay/neuter program in Augusta issues certificates at a cost of only \$10 for cats and \$20 for dogs. These certificates are for income qualifying residents of Maine only. Responsible Pet care will cover these fees to qualifying individuals, which essentially means free spay/neuter! RPC also has grants to assist owners with the cost of spaying and neutering their pets that do not qualify for FIX ME. To contact FIX ME, 800 367-1317, to contact RPC 743-8679.

Dog licenses are due each year by January 1. Cats are required by law to be vaccinated for rabies. There is rabies present in our area, so vaccination is very important. If your dog gets lost and is wearing the dog license tag or other identification, there is a very good chance that he will be returned to you. The cost to register your dog is \$6.00 if spayed/neutered and \$11.00 if not. If you do not license your dog by January 31, there is a late fee of \$25.00 per dog. “RPC” urges all pet owners to make sure pets are identified by ID tag, dog license tag and microchip if possible so that pets may be returned if lost. Responsible Pet Care sponsors rabies vaccinations clinics in January and September. For more information regarding those clinics please call us at 743-8679. Also, if you are missing your pet, please call both your animal control officer.

As always, we appreciate and thank you for your support and compassion.

Responsible Pet Care Directors

Shirley H. Boyce, Cynthia Wescott, Corinna Morse  
Morgan Miles, Jayden Irons

## Committee Reports

### Recreation Committee

**Events:** The Recreation Committee was fortunate to host a number of unique events to bring together the community. We hosted the first ever Harvest Event where we had over 70 kids from the community in attendance to play games, participate in kickball, get their face painted and have great food!

Additionally, we hosted 4 adult evening events in conjunction with the American Legion Post 150. The efforts from the Legion and the Recreation Committee made it possible for all proceeds to be donated back to the Recreation Committee to enhance facilities, buy equipment, and supplement the cost of registration for our players.

Next year, we plan to also participate in the Community Days as well!

In April, our community lost a true pillar of our community, Ken Grant. In his honor, with the help of the Grant Family, on November 17th & 18th, the Recreation Committee hosted the first annual Ken Grant 3-on-3 Tournament. All proceed went to Mechanic Falls Recreation and to create the first ever Ken Grant Scholarship Fund given to outstanding seniors graduating from Poland Regional High School. There were 31 teams and over 140 players over six divisions from 5th Grade to 65 years old that came out to support the recreation and celebrate the life of Ken Grant.

**Facilities:** Mechanic Falls hosted its first ever field maintenance day sponsored by the Natural Sand Company (NSC). Their product, Dura-Edge, makes up the infield mix on the Coleman Field to create a more true and safer playing experience for our players. The Coleman Field is now considered the area's best Little League Field.

As a result of the workshop, NSC rebuilt the girls' softball field and had it laser graded to specifications by Sports Turf out of Massachusetts. The workshop was attended by representatives from as far away as Presque Isle with a total attendance of over 45 people.

Additionally, the Babe Ruth field was also resurfaced and has allowed the Recreation Committee to host numerous softball tournaments for all ages.

Finally, the Recreation Committee was able to improve the basketball play at Elm Street School by raising funds to install an apparatus on each glass backboard allowing for the height to be adjusted. This has resulted in game play that is safer and gives all of our players the opportunity to learn to play basketball at heights that are appropriate for proper technique.

**Basketball:** The 2016-17 Season saw 84 participants from Pre-K through 6th grade, easily being the highest number of participants in recent memory. This was our first year of including the Pre-K level and making Mechanic Falls Recreation the only program in the area offering opportunities for **BOTH** Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten for every season. The 5th & 6th grade Mechanic Falls Auto Team won the league championship with our girls finishing runner-up! The season ended with a celebration at the

American Legion Post 150 where we had a pizza party for all of the players. There were more than 200 people in attendance.

**Softball:** We had 48 young female athletes make up 4 very competitive teams (all had winning records). All teams had great participation from parents and athletes from the beginning to end of the season. We started with clinics in January and the last game was played in August.

**Baseball:** There were 36 participants in the baseball program this year. Mechanic Falls hosted part of the Oxford Invitational Tournament and Hosted the Championship Game for Andy Valley Cal Ripken League.

**Tee Ball:** We gathered 3 teams of players including 35 participants in Pre-K through 1st Grade. As an introduction, teams played each other and against the Poland & Minot programs. The season culminated in an activity day where the three teams played under the lights to celebrate the end of the season.

**Soccer:** For as long as anyone can remember, the weather held out and we did not have a single cancellation due to weather. There were just under 60 participants and all teams progressed well throughout the season.

## Safety Committee

The Safety Committee for the Town of Mechanic Falls is made up of a representative from each department and meets throughout the year to review the safety of all municipal properties, conducts the safety training for all employees, and makes changes to safety policies as needed.

I would like to report that the Town of Mechanic Falls department supervisors are committed to ensure the safety for all employees and municipal properties.

A grant was secured for continuing education for safety committee representative during the fiscal year of 2017.

We encourage any comments or concerns that you may have.

Respectfully,

Fred S. Collins Jr.



## Municipal Revenues Received

### Municipal Revenues Received July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Motor Vehicle Excise	\$453,433.00	Special Amusement	\$300.00
Boat Excise	\$1,616.20	Cable Franchise Fee	\$29,017.95
Motor Vehicle License	\$9,279.00	Transfer Station Fee	\$3,367.95
Snow/ATV License	\$319.00	CEO Citations	\$1,239.32
Boat License	\$114.00	Police Fines	\$50.00
Cash Mgmt Interest	\$3,233.99	Late Fee Dogs	\$500.00
Real Estate Interest	\$21,961.56	Service Charges	\$0.00
		RSU 16 Winter Maint	\$0.00
Lien Costs	\$8,019.55	Municipal Gym Rent	\$235.00
Will/Fax/Notary fees	\$367.00	USCTC Rent	\$5,133.24
Postage/Copies/Voter	\$310.03	Head Start Rent	\$1,912.56
Transfer Sta. Stickers	\$4,810.00	Tennis Lights	\$0.00
Driveway Entrance	\$120.00	Roll-off Can Rent Fee	\$1,827.00
		Insurance	
Pole Permits	\$20.00	Reimburse	\$1,426.00
Building Permits	\$5,856.34	Recycling	
		Reimburse	\$6,657.09
Plumbing Permits	\$622.50	Welfare Reimburse	\$0.00
Electrical Permits	\$2,173.40	Police Reimburse	\$0.00
Conditional Use Per	\$296.51	Business	
		Advertising	\$0.00
Hunt/Fish License	\$380.25	Sold items	\$0.00
Weapons Permits	\$274.00	Ball Field Lights	
		Reimb	\$5,000.00
Birth/Death	\$808.00	Reserve Bank Accts	\$0.00
Marriage License	\$792.00	Sale Town Owned	\$0.00
Victualer's License	\$450.00	Tax Acquired Prop	\$0.00
Liquor License	\$450.00	Pynt in Lieu of Tax	\$1,792.30
Marriage Certificate	\$429.00	Veteran's	
		Exemption	\$1,987.00
Burial Permits	\$658.00	Tree Growth Reimb	\$3,736.46
Add Certified Copies	\$476.00	BETE Tax	
		Reimburse	\$9,146.00
Dog License	\$934.00	Highway Block	
		Grant	\$22,408.00
Dog Fees	\$509.00	State Revenue	
		Share	\$200,333.37
Rabies Call	\$0.00		

Public Safety Reports	\$307.00	State Welfare Reimb	\$1,537.20
Zoning Fee	\$0.00	Homestead Reimb	\$113,595.00
Court Fee	\$138.19	Snowmobile Refund	\$522.98
Water Admin Fee	\$21,000.00	State Burn Permits	\$22.00
		FEMA	
Home Occupation	\$35.00	Reimbursement	\$3,657.31
Sign Permit Fee	\$15.00	Sex Offender Registry	\$10.00
	\$540,207.52		\$415,413.73
<b>Total Revenues Received</b>			\$955,621.25
Total Anticipated (Budgeted)			\$876,926.29
% of Revenues Received			108.97%

## Payments to Municipal Officials / Employees

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Department	Employee Name	Total	FIR		
			FIR	Paul Harvey	\$880.88
			FIR	Devin Herbert	\$1,667.25
Plan Board	Paula Bolduc	\$108.00	FIR	Caleb Hodgkin	\$636.75
Plan Board	Walter Goss	\$90.00	FIR	Ben Limerick*	\$7,780.06
Plan Board	Paula Stotts	\$90.00	FIR	Michael Limerick	\$2,528.70
Plan Board	Lou Goulet	\$60.00	FIR	Randal Madore*	\$581.50
Plan Board	Dan Gurney	\$30.00	FIR	Stephanie Madore	\$389.25
Plan Board	Jeremy Klar	\$10.00	FIR	Cathy Proulx	\$18.00
			FIR	Edward Scott	\$288.00
Brd Appls	Thomas Walton	\$0.00	FIR	David Stimson	\$1,430.52
Brd Appls	Nancy Richard	\$0.00	FIR	Chris Strout*	\$54.75
Brd Appls	Martha Wiseman	\$0.00	FIR	Fred Sturtevant*	\$7,633.75
			FIR	Logan Thomas	\$82.50
Council	Lou Annance	\$600.00	FIR	Zachary Toth	\$1,553.56
Council	Wayne Hackett	\$500.00	FIR	Richard Wing	\$36.00
Council	Steve Bolduc	\$500.00	FIR	Michael Wood	\$39.38
Council	Cathy Fifield	\$500.00			
Council	Nick Konstantoulakis	\$500.00	Janitor	Burton Philbrick*	\$9205.71
ACO	Robert Larrabee	\$4,670.00			

Admin	Koriene Low	\$63,362.53	Library	Penny Pray	\$96.97
Admin	Sheila Gray	\$412.50	Library	Michelle Paladino	\$3,327.92
Admin	Angela Grenier	\$31,501.61	Library	Nancy Petersons*	\$15,078.08
Admin	Miranda Hinkley	\$31,527.47			
Admin	Lisa Prevost	\$50,871.61	Police	Jeffrey Goss	\$64,071.69
			Police	Paul Harrison	\$55,211.51
CEO	Fred Collins	\$30,049.88	Police	Zachary Bisson	\$360.00
CEO	Kieth Bennett	\$937.50	Police	Alfred J. Daigle	\$50,803.40
CEO	Wayne Marquis	\$125.00	Police	Michelle Emery*	\$12,435.46
CEO	Nick Adams	\$225.00	Police	Nick Gagnon	\$2,244.00
			Police	Shawn Gagnon	\$38,789.34
ELE	Brenda Coleman	\$116.00	Police	Zachary West	\$40,076.25
ELE	Lydia Fisher	\$40.00			
ELE	Jacqueline Preston	\$235.50	PWD	Scott Penney	\$57,447.92
			PWD	Chris Arsenault	\$40,142.27
GA Admin	Shannon Moxcey	\$4,500.00	PWD	Andrew Coleman	\$35,422.83
			PWD	Wayne Edwards	\$34,619.19
FIR	Robert Arsenault	\$2,424.33	PWD	Robert Goddard	\$684.50
FIR	David Barton	\$1,562.39	PWD	Ronald Tirrell	\$989.12
FIR	Donald Boyd	\$90.00	PWD	Brandon Bearor	\$2,613.75
FIR	Edward Brown	\$620.25			
FIR	Joel Carlton	\$126.00	Rec	Joseph Benedict	\$888.96
FIR	Thomas Casey*	\$782.13	Rec	Courtney Marston	\$3,297.50
FIR	David Clukey	\$1,391.88	Rec	Suzanne Marston	\$3,840.00
FIR	Jonathan Damon*	\$4,092.88	Rec	Michael Peppe	\$888.96
FIR	Kayla Damon	\$157.00	Rec	Renee Reid	\$1,856.25
FIR	Kelli Doherty	\$203.25			
FIR	Thomas Doherty	\$763.94	Rescue	Jennifer Casey*	\$6,176.38
FIR	Michael Doze	\$315.00	Rescue	Elwood Strout	\$189.25
FIR	Jordan Emery*	\$119.50			
FIR	Matthew Fifield*	\$1,578.75			
FIR	Thomas Gagnon	\$229.50			

Transfer	Kathryn Oak*	\$717.33	Water Dept	Stephen French	\$52,529.03
Transfer	Leslie Johnson*	\$21,299.69	Water Dept	Anthony Corey	\$37,912.62
Transfer	Dennis Mazurkiewicz	\$11,374.50	Water Dept	Michelle Emery	\$16,740.18
			Water Dept	Jacob Verrill	\$10,219.68
Transfer	Stephen Turner	\$4,014.35			
Transfer	Norman Lowe	\$7,401.07	Total Utilities Salaries		\$117,401.51
			Total Municipal Salaries		\$787,184.40
			Total Utilities Salaries		\$117,401.51
			Total Municipal & Utilities Salaries		\$904,585.91

(\*) Indicates an employee received payment from more than one department

(1) – Payment from Rescue

(2) - Payment from Fire Department

(3) – Payment from Safety and Health Compliance

(4) - Payment from Election Clerk

(5) - Payment from Code Enforcement

BUDGET SUMMARY					
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	APPROVED
BUDGET LINES					
Boards and Council	\$11,487	\$10,631	\$10,030	\$9,819	\$12,148
Legal Services	\$1,033	\$5,276	\$4,685	\$1,553	\$4,000
Municipal Complex	\$77,209	\$81,382	\$79,368	\$82,901	\$88,464
Town Clerk / Elections	\$137,350	\$135,071	\$151,014	\$135,244	\$140,798
Town Manager	\$69,261	\$69,060	\$68,801	\$67,221	\$63,450
Safety Compliance Officer	\$5,778	\$7,844	\$8,171	\$6,311	\$9,206
Utilities	\$167,688	\$169,221	\$166,875	\$167,287	\$168,725
Code Enforcement / Planning	\$39,631	\$21,874	\$23,264	\$30,534	\$38,486
Library	\$21,349	\$23,393	\$27,876	\$27,161	\$32,449
Recreation	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$6,000
Social Services / Welfare	\$26,999	\$8,480	\$6,089	\$6,780	\$11,500
Assessor	\$19,718	\$20,531	\$20,702	\$20,656	\$20,700
Auditor	\$6,275	\$6,000	\$6,750	\$7,800	\$7,550
Contingency	\$1,715	\$0	\$4,022	\$7,520	\$10,000
Debt Service	\$149,850	\$132,991	\$203,920	\$202,585	\$201,422
Pensions / Insurances	\$363,356	\$290,613	\$338,819	\$360,332	\$380,782
Animal Control	\$7,493	\$6,936	\$8,070	\$8,097	\$8,658
Dispatcher	\$32,280	\$32,280	\$32,280	\$32,432	\$33,083
EMA	\$601	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Fire Department	\$61,142	\$64,638	\$59,493	\$65,194	\$65,786
Police Department	\$301,961	\$292,195	\$282,887	\$287,509	\$300,813
Rescue	\$15,567	\$13,482	\$18,427	\$21,494	\$22,606
Health Officer	\$500	\$690	\$690	\$690	\$0
Public Works	\$319,068	\$312,807	\$278,391	\$299,582	\$320,701
Solid Waste	\$117,733	\$115,333	\$115,366	\$107,456	\$105,589
County Tax	\$159,503	\$156,104	\$157,488	\$166,449	\$176,272
GENERAL FUND	\$2,112,269	\$1,981,332	\$2,077,978	\$2,124,607	\$2,230,188
CIP BUDGET	\$64,100	\$101,500	\$29,461	\$8,550	\$19,500
RESERVES BUDGET	\$58,500	\$187,550	\$181,550	\$212,050	\$168,350
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,234,869	\$2,270,382	\$2,288,989	\$2,345,207	\$2,418,038

**TOWN OF MECHANIC FALLS  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2017**

	<u>Primary Government</u>		
	<u>Governmental</u>	<u>Business -</u>	
	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>Activities</u>	
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,778,148	\$ 63,644	\$ 1,841,792
Taxes Receivable	165,483	0	165,483
Tax Lien Receivable	81,385	0	81,385
Accounts Receivable	61,585	0	61,585
Prepaid Expenses	6,362	0	6,362
Inventories	4,912	0	4,912
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>3,426,735</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,426,735</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 5,524,610</u>	<u>\$ 63,644</u>	<u>\$ 5,588,254</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Related to Pensions	<u>\$ 107,539</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 107,539</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	\$ 72,619	\$ 0	\$ 72,619
Accrued Expenses	67,663	0	67,663
Taxes Paid in Advance	8,158	0	8,158
Non Current Liabilities			
Due Within One Year	182,137	0	182,137
Due in More Than One Year	396,072	0	396,072
Net Pension Liability	<u>160,733</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>160,733</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>\$ 887,382</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 887,382</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Related to Pensions	<u>\$ 44,771</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 44,771</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
<i>Net Investment in Capital Assets</i>	\$ 2,848,526	\$ 0	\$ 2,848,526
<i>Restricted</i>			
Permanent Funds, Non-Expendable	1,755	0	1,755
Unemployment	0	63,644	63,644
<i>Unrestricted</i>	<u>1,849,715</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,849,715</u>
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<u>\$ 4,699,996</u>	<u>\$ 63,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,763,640</u>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.



**EXHIBIT II**

**TOWN OF MECHANIC FALLS  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

<u>Functions/Programs</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets Primary Government</u>		
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Business - Type Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Primary Government</b>						
<b>Governmental Activities</b>						
General Government	\$ 378,476	\$ 102,672	\$ 0	\$ (275,804)	\$ 0	\$ (275,804)
Protection	413,044	2,244	0	(410,800)	0	(410,800)
Public Works	532,422	17,047	26,065	(489,310)	0	(489,310)
Fiscal Services	578,735	0	0	(578,735)	0	(578,735)
Education	1,548,157	0	0	(1,548,157)	0	(1,548,157)
Community Services	34,641	5,000	2,060	(27,581)	0	(27,581)
Fixed Charges	174,544	0	0	(174,544)	0	(174,544)
Interest on Long - Term Debt	22,805	0	0	(22,805)	0	(22,805)
Depreciation - Unallocated	174,693	0	0	(174,693)	0	(174,693)
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$ 3,857,517</b>	<b>\$ 126,963</b>	<b>\$ 28,125</b>	<b>\$ (3,702,429)</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ (3,702,429)</b>
<b>Business - Type Activities</b>	<b>10,721</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(10,721)</b>	<b>(10,721)</b>
<b>Total Primary Government</b>	<b>\$ 3,868,238</b>	<b>126,963</b>	<b>\$ 28,125</b>	<b>\$ (3,702,429)</b>	<b>\$ (10,721)</b>	<b>\$ (3,713,150)</b>
<b>General Revenues</b>						
Property and Other Taxes				\$ 3,478,133	\$ 0	\$ 3,478,133
Grants and Contributions Not Restricted to Special Programs				328,819	0	328,819
Unrestricted Investment Earnings				5,106	193	5,299
<b>Total General Revenues</b>				<b>\$ 3,812,058</b>	<b>\$ 193</b>	<b>\$ 3,812,251</b>
<b>Changes in Net Position</b>				<b>\$ 109,629</b>	<b>\$ (10,528)</b>	<b>\$ 99,101</b>
<b>Net Position – July 1, 2016</b>				<b>4,590,367</b>	<b>74,172</b>	<b>4,664,539</b>
<b>Net Position – June 30, 2017</b>				<b>\$ 4,699,996</b>	<b>\$ 63,644</b>	<b>\$ 4,763,640</b>

**EXHIBIT III**

**TOWN OF MECHANIC FALLS  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2017**

	General Fund	Highway Equipment Capital Project Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,224,682	\$ 224,519	\$ 328,947	\$ 1,778,148
Taxes Receivable	165,483	0	0	165,483
Tax Liens Receivable	81,385	0	0	81,385
Accounts Receivable	61,585	0	0	61,585
Prepaid Expenses	6,362	0	0	6,362
Inventories	4,912	0	0	4,912
Due from Other Funds	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,544,409</b>	<b>\$ 224,519</b>	<b>\$ 328,947</b>	<b>\$ 2,097,875</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$ 1,544,409</b>	<b>\$ 224,519</b>	<b>\$ 328,947</b>	<b>\$ 2,097,875</b>
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balance</b>				
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 72,619	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 72,619
Accrued Expenses	37,553	0	0	37,553
Deferred Revenues	0	0	0	0
Due to Other Funds	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 110,172</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 110,172</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$ 211,158</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 211,158</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>				
<i>Nonspendable</i>				
Permanent Funds – Non-Expendable	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,755	\$ 1,755
<i>Committed</i>				
Capital Projects	0	224,519	250,013	474,532
Appropriated Surplus for FY 2017/18	100,000	0	0	100,000
<i>Assigned</i>				
Special Revenue Funds	0	0	67,059	67,059
Permanent Funds, Expendable	0	0	10,120	10,120
<i>Unassigned</i>				
General Fund	1,123,079	0	0	1,123,079
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,223,079</b>	<b>\$ 224,519</b>	<b>\$ 328,947</b>	<b>\$ 1,776,545</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,544,409</b>	<b>\$ 224,519</b>	<b>\$ 328,947</b>	<b>\$ 2,097,875</b>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this Statement.



# RSU 16

MECHANIC FALLS • MINOT • POLAND

rsu16.org

Tina Meserve, Superintendent

Amy Hediger, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Director

John Hawley, Director of Operations

Stacie Field, Business Manager

January 2018

Dear Citizens of Mechanic Falls,

The 2017-18 school year is a year of continued focus on the goals we set last year. Our goals are focused on three priorities: curriculum, effective instruction and culture. We are designing and reviewing curriculum, aligning assessments and developing behavior management systems to increase productive learning time for all students.

Early Release Wednesdays are critical to our goal to improve teaching and learning. On Wednesdays, staff have over 2 hours of professional time to develop new skills and common understanding for best practices. Here are some highlights from Wednesday sessions:

- **Curriculum:** We are using an online mapping system, Rubicon Atlas, so our curriculum will be accessible to all staff, students, parents and community members once it is completed and approved by the Board. K-6 staff are working collaboratively to define student success criteria in the science and social studies curriculum. At the middle school and high school all departments are refining assessments.
- **Effective Instruction:** All teachers are referencing the book, Seven Strategies of Assessment for Learning by Jan Chappuis. This book organizes research-based recommendations about teaching and assessing into an instructional framework that can improve student achievement. Through this study, teachers are increasing their knowledge of how to help students clearly identify the content they are responsible for learning. Teachers are also learning how to offer effective feedback to students.
- **Culture:** Supporting students in developing positive behaviors is a focus across the district. K-8 staff continue to implement Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This system requires schools to set clear expectations for behavior in common areas, such as, the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, playground and buses. Staff provide positive recognition to students who demonstrate the desired behaviors and also establish consistent ways of responding to inappropriate behavior. Staff at the 7-12 grade level are implementing Restorative Practices to help students understand the impact of their behavior and to make things right when they have caused damage to relationships or the facility. This year, PRHS has expanded their focus to include training on civil discourse. Students are learning specific strategies to use when discussing controversial topics, or during times of conflict, to ensure those interactions are handled in a safe, respectful manner.

Thanks to our communities, we have an approved building project to address the overcrowding at BWMS and PRHS. Although you will not see shovels in the ground in the next year, architects will continue to work on the schematic design and work toward a detailed plan. Construction is scheduled to begin after the first of the year in 2019. The addition and renovation should be completed by the start of the 2020-21 school year.

We are just beginning the 2018-2019 Budget process. Our Budget Committee includes members of the RSU 16 School Board; Central Office Administration and Town Representatives. Once again, we will be counting on your feedback as we develop a budget that allows us to meet the goals of our 5-Year Strategic Plan, while being fiscally responsible to our community members. As always, our FY '18-19 budget will be developed in a transparent and collaborative manner. Our Budget Committee meetings are open to the public and videotaped. Our website ([www.rsu16.org](http://www.rsu16.org)) will host all of our budget information.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*Tina Meserve*  
Tina Meserve

Central Office, 3 Aggregate Road, Poland, ME 04274  
207-998-2727 Fax 207-998-2753



# WHITTIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

SHAWN VINCENT - PRINCIPAL



JESSICA MADSEN - DEAN OF STUDENTS

January 17, 2018

Greetings from Whittier Middle School!

It's a big year at Bruce M. Whittier Middle School! We currently serve 262 seventh and eighth graders from Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland; this is an increase of 30 students from this time last year. Our staff is made up of twenty full-time teachers, five educational technicians, one school counselor, and one administrator. We also share staff members with each of the schools in our district.

Students take full-year courses in English language arts, math, science, social studies, and physical education. Seventh grade students complete art and technology education for one semester each. In eighth grade, students take Spanish and Wellness classes. Students may also choose to participate in band and/or chorus.

We encourage students to get involved in sports and other co-curricular activities to enrich their school experience and challenge themselves beyond academics. Over 100 students participated in sports during the fall season, playing field hockey, soccer, or running cross-country. Others played football through the recreation program. This winter, 67 students are playing basketball for Whittier, and a large number of students will compete with the indoor track team in February. In addition, many students are involved in Student Council, Drama Club, Yearbook Committee, Technology Club, Frisbee Club, Spanish Club, Guitar Club, Writing Club, Civil Rights Team, and Math Club.

Academically, Whittier students continue to perform better than the state average on the Maine Educational Assessment. On the 2016-17 English language arts test, 55% of Whittier students met or exceeded the standard (compared to the state's 52%), and on the math test 51% of Whittier students met or exceeded the standard (compared to the state's 39%). Additionally, 70% of Whittier 8<sup>th</sup> graders met or exceeded the standard on the state science assessment (compared to the state's 62%). We continue to work toward supporting all students in meeting state standards.

This year's staff development has focused on implementation of the Building Assets, Reducing Risks (BARR) Model. The BARR Model is intended to help educators better connect with students and address the issues that cause students to fail, drop out, and/or engage in harmful behavior. The program, provided through a grant, has helped us build a structured monitoring and intervention system to develop goals and supports for students. Every student is monitored and reviewed every week in an effort to track progress and needs. While the work has required an investment of time, we are making great progress in supporting students.

Staff members continue to develop common, consistent curriculum and assessments to drive learning. Whittier teachers are involved in reviewing assessments to ensure they match the rigor and learning goals our learners need to master to achieve growth and be successful beyond Whittier Middle School.

We are extremely proud of the teaching, learning, and positive culture of our school, and we are truly grateful for the support and investment of our community.

Shawn J. Vincent  
Principal



## RSU 16 ADULT EDUCATION

Mechanic Falls ~ Minot ~ Poland

Making a Difference Since 1984

January 2018

Dear Citizens,

In 2017, we celebrated the accomplishments of twelve new Adult Education graduates at our cap and gown graduation ceremony on Friday, June 2, 2017. Close to 90 friends and family members gathered in the Elm Street School gymnasium to recognize the achievements of these students and to watch as Superintendent Tina Meserve presented them with diplomas. Superintendent Meserve also delivered the inspirational message on the value and power of dreams, saying "the proper measure of success is not how much you've closed the distance to some far-off goal but the quality of what you've done today". Graduate, Kayla Olson, also shared her personal educational experiences and her heartfelt thoughts on finding success with the support of Adult Education staff.

During the 2016/2017 school year, which began with a five-week summer session, we served 67 students in academic High School Diploma and HiSET programming. Twenty-three others participated in computer classes and career advising. In addition, we had 328 registrations in adult and community enrichment classes (fitness, arts and crafts, outdoor safety education, informational sessions, etc.). Combined, this is a total of 418 registrations for our program.

We have lots to offer to our community. I encourage you to take a look at the classes in our course catalog or on our website at <http://mechanicfalls.maineadulted.org/>. You can also stay connected with events and developments by finding us on Facebook or Twitter. If we can be of assistance in any way, please email [jrose@rsu16.org](mailto:jrose@rsu16.org), call 345-3217, or stop by our Learning Center at Elm Street School in Mechanic Falls. Your ideas, support and involvement are always welcome and very much appreciated!

Respectfully,

Jenny H. Rose  
Director

(207) 345-3217 • fax 346-6223 • PO Box 129, Mechanic Falls, ME 04256 • 129 Elm St  
[rsu16adulted@rsu16.org](mailto:rsu16adulted@rsu16.org) • <http://mechanicfalls.maineadulted.org/>

## Before and After School Program

The before and after school program had another successful year in our new location! 2017 Marked our 17<sup>th</sup> year as a state licensed, not for profit childcare center licensed to care for up to 26 children and our 4<sup>th</sup> year operating out of the former head start building.

Our head start location allows us to provide much needed holiday, teacher in-service day and snow day care for the children.

Parent volunteers, small business donations, 2 successful fundraisers as well as an outpouring of community support provided the opportunity for us to provide quality childcare for approx. 24 children throughout 2017.

We are currently looking to fill four spots vacated by children who have aged out of the program. Three of which have participated in the program since kindergarten. We anticipate filling those spots soon. We will begin fall enrollment for the 2018/2019 school year in April.

As always, we thank the town of Mechanic Falls and the wonderful community members whose support allows us to provide this service to the community.

Rain Tarantino and Amanda Bosse  
Co- Directors Mechanic Falls Before and After School





## Poland Regional High School

1457 Maine Street, Poland, Maine 04274  
 ph: 207.998.5400 fax: 207.998.5060

Cari Medd  
*Principal*  
 cmedd@rsu16.org

Patrick Flynn  
*Assistant Principal*  
 pflynn@rsu16.org

Don King  
*Dir. of Co-Curricular Activities*  
 dking@rsu16.org

January 2018

Dear Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland Town Residents,

Poland Regional High School is in its 19th year of educating the teenagers of these three towns. It's hard to believe we will celebrate 20 years of service to our communities next year! Here are a few numbers to give you a profile of our current students:

- Our current enrollment is 470.
- We have 61 students enrolled at LRTC, the largest number in three years
- We have 30 students enrolled in college classes first semester, the largest number in three years.

Our enrollment has gone down over the past several years and as a result we began this school year with three fewer teachers after a reduction in force this past spring. We don't see any big swings in our population in the years to come so we do not anticipate losing any more staff members.

As we respond to the new Maine state law requiring that students graduate from high school with demonstrated proficiency in the Maine State Learning Results, some graduation requirement changes have been implemented. The current sophomore class (Class of 2020) must meet the state standards in the following areas:

Science: Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry

Math: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry and Statistics in our Math 1-4 courses

Social Studies: World Geography, American History, Modern world history (in our Humanities classes), and government and economics

ELA: the study of English Language Arts (in our Humanities classes) every year of high school

Physical Education and Health: 1.5 full years of study and a demonstrated ability to create and follow a personal fitness plan

Visual and Performing Arts: music, art, and theatre are all choices

Technology: we have added many more computer technology courses over the past 4 years

In addition, we have finally been able to add the study of **FRENCH** back into our school! We had 59 students sign up to study French 1 this year and French 2 will be added next year. Thank you for all of your support in making this happen.

Sincerely,

Cari  
 Principal

RSU #16  
Elm Street School  
“Dedicated to Creating a Quality Tomorrow”

129 Elm Street  
Mechanic Falls, ME 04256

Cathy Folan, Principal  
Telephone (207) 345-3381  
Fax (207) 346-6224

January 23, 2018

Dear Citizens of Mechanic Falls:

As the Interim Principal at Elm Street School, I have had the privilege of getting to know the many wonderful staff and students at ESS. Although I do not live in the community, I have recognized that there are many things that support our efforts to educate the young people of Mechanic Falls.

Elm Street School serves 285 students in grades PK through 6, with an average class size of 17. At this time, there are 16 classroom teachers, 2 Title 1 teachers, 3 special education teachers, and 18 ed techs. We also share a PE, Art, Music and GT teacher with other schools in the district. Our School Counselor position is also shared with Minot Consolidated School. Each person at ESS is committed to doing his or her best for every child every day. This year we have focused much of our professional development time on implementing Positive Behavior Supports in Schools (PBIS). PBIS is a multi-tiered approach to social, emotional and behavior support. Our goal is to have Elm Street School be a place where everyone is Safe, Responsible, and Respectful.

Our custodial and food service people are key contributors to our having a safe, healthy school. This year, the food service staff instituted a Share Table. It is a very simple concept; packaged foods, fruit, juices, or milk not eaten at breakfast or lunch, is collected each day. These are then given to our school nurse who makes them available to any student who needs a snack during the day. It is great to see students walking back to classrooms with fresh fruit and juices when needed.

This summer, The Elm Street School PTO installed some new equipment on the playground. Our students have thoroughly enjoyed the new additions. This group of dedicated parents is always seeking ways to support our students and families; book fairs, family breakfasts, holiday fairs, and spring carnivals provide opportunities for our students, their families, and others in the community, to come together and simply have fun! We are certainly grateful for all they do for us.

My career has taken me to many different schools and communities, each with its unique characteristics, and believe it or not, similarities. But what most strikes me has been this constant: each community wants its children to have a positive educational experience; each wants its children to have caring teachers; each wants all of its students to be successful. Everyone at Elm Street School wants the same thing.

Sincerely,

  
Cathy Folan

## Unpaid Property Taxes

### Personal Property – 2014

HARVEST HILL FARMS	4,035.83
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### Personal Property – 2015

HARVEST HILL FARMS	4,613.52
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### Personal Property – 2016

HARVEST HILL FARMS	5122.75
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### Personal Property – 2017

ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC	1272.62
HARVEST HILL FARMS	5613.70
HOLBROOK, SHAWN	338.97
JOE ZAPPERS THE CREATIVE EDGE	5.77

### Personal Property – 1<sup>st</sup> half 2018

SHEILA FENNESSY	2.43
SHAWN HOLBROOK	207.90
JASIM LLC	165.00
JOE ZAPPERS THE CREATIVE EDGE	16.96
KATHYS DINER	129.80
M&KS LLC	88.00
DANIEL POLAND	53.90
THE CROOKED HOOK TAVERN	61.17

## Real Estate - 2017

14 PEARL ST RESIDENTIAL LAND TRUST	1241.51	LEONARD, JOYCE	1,309.24
ALLEN-PARKER, DIANA G	141.05	MADORE RANDAL L	919.23
ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE LLC	21296.04	MARTIN CYNTHIA A	5,547.63
BEAULIEU, RAYMOND E	1149.78	MERRILL ROBERT S	358.33
BENSON, KRISTINA N	1605.21	MORRELL EUGENE L	1,221.02
BRAY, CYNTHIA M	1363.24	ODONNELL RICHARD	2,604.44
BROWN MICHAEL A	739.56	PARSONS JENNIFER J	5,880.21
CALABRESE BRETT	353.02	PEARL CHAD	368.71
CARTER DONALD	1,848.95	PIKE SAMUEL M	1,378.25
CARTER JODIE	285.42	PLUMMER RANDY	219.20
CHILDS, CHRISTINE (LE)	3,003.95	PORTER III EARLE G	1,626.90
CLOUTIER JAN	787.92	POST BRUCE	733.93
CLUKEY DANIEL	24.43	RAY AMY L	518.99
COZZOLINO MICHAEL	2,354.43	ROWE JULIANNE F	2,749.94
D&D MANAGEMENT LLC	1,216.25	SAUCIER PAUL & DIANE	496.56
DUFOUR BARBARA	17.16	SWANSON JOHN M	884.72
DUFOUR DENIS	3,490.13	TIBBETTS ELVA HEIRS OF	1,254.60
GAGNON JR DAVID E	975.66	WHEELER TRACY ROSE	447.70
GAGNON JUNE	1,054.01	WILCOX RICHARD	1,083.64
HEIRS OF ROBERT GEORGE	446.06	WILLSON BRUCE W	1,959.13
JORDAN SHIRLEY A	992.14	WING TIMOTHY D	2,525.95
LEONARD DAVID M JR	2,245.74		

Real Estate – 1<sup>st</sup> half 2018

14 PEARL ST RESIDENTIAL LAND	586.10	CARTER JODIE	92.27
500 PINE REALTY	721.38	CHAPMAN JEREMY C	930.70
500 PINE REALTY	220.07	CHILDS JESSE J	1494.96
ALLEN-PARKER DIANA G	17.78	CHINNOCK MARK	548.52
ANKETELL SETH	17.01	CLOUTIER JAN	813.09
BAROUDI ADAM	2198.21	COOLIDGE KEITH	130.10
BEAL RICHARD	421.78	COUNTRY SIDE MANAGEMENT	194.87
BEAULIEU RAYMOND E	680.42	COZZOLINO MICHAEL	1214.82
BEAULIEU RAYMOND E	57.75	CRANDALL SCOTT	722.91
BEGIN SR WILFRED M	323.40	CUSHMAN JOSEPH	1432.98
BENSON KRISTINA N	828.25	D&D MANAGEMENT	627.55
BISBEE LELAND	846.85	DAVIS JOHN W JR	2518.45
BOUCHLES CHARLES J	1653.14	DEHETRE JOSEPH	543.69
BRAY CYNTHIA M	703.40	DOUGLASS RACHEL	46.61
BROWN MICHAEL A	708.19	DUBOIS MAURICE	158.44
BRYANT RUSSELL	135.59	DUFOUR DENIS	1745.81
BUTCHELL JASON	273.35	E-LAYNE MOULDERS CORP	13255.31
CALABRESE BRETT	127.15	E-LAYNE MOULDERS CORP	977.07
CARTER DONALD	899.01	E-LAYNE MOULDERS CORP	1451.99

ELLINGTON KRISTEN	426.70	TIBBETTS ELVA HEIRS OF	647.34
FREEMAN JOAN	62.59	TIMBERLAKE HEIRS OF GINNI B	1267.40
FREEMAN KEVIN	948.88	TIMBERLAKE HEIRS OF GINNI B	189.09
FRIEND SUSAN M	34.03	TOUSSAINT RUSSELL E	1081.42
GAGNON JR DAVID E	503.42	TWITCHELL PRISCILLA	60.63
GAGNON JEREMY	402.84	VALLEE NORMAND J	637.45
GAGNON JUNE	543.84	VALLEE NORMAND J	220.00
GEORGE ANDREW	461.16	VALLEE NORMAND J	167.91
GROVER JEFFREY	352.34	VALLEE NORMAND J	48.38
GUY CHARLES	1315.27	VIRTUAL COMMERCE INC	1648.44
HEIRS OF LITTLEFIELD MARJORIE	978.54	VSH REALTY	3374.23
HEIRS OF SWANSON JOHN M	438.74	WHEELER TRACY ROSE	231.00
JASIM LLC	2614.37	WHITAKER JESS	749.65
JORDAN SHIRLEY A	456.92	WILCOX RICHARD	504.13
KENDRICK JAMES E	13.31	WILLSON BRUCE	955.86
KENISTON HEATH	68.28	WING TIMOTHY D	135.30
KONDAUR CAPITAL CORP TRUSTEE	886.80	WING TIMOTHY D	1365.14
LACROIX RICHARD	180.28		
LARKIN ELIZABETH	1354.04		
LARRABEE DOUGLAS M	1374.54		
LARRABEE KIMBERLY	83.95		
LARRABEE DEBRA L	569.74		
LEE THOMAS	219.73		
LEONARD DAVID M JR	1103.74		
LEONARD JOYCE	620.53		
MADORE RANDAL L	419.30		
MAINE STATE HOUSING	267.79		
MARTIN CYNTHIA A	2862.42		
MCINNIS SHIRLEY K	886.01		
MERRILL ROBERT S	383.06		
MILTON PATRICIA	277.20		
MORIN BEVERLY J	862.44		
MORRELL EUGENE L	630.02		
NAZARENE CHRUCH PARSONAGE	391.79		
O DONNELL RICHARD	1288.82		
PARSONS JENNIFER J	3034.02		
PATTERSON REV HAROLD	105.84		
PEARL CHARLES JR	342.33		
PEARL CHAD	190.25		
PERRY JEANNE	571.68		
PIKE SAMUEL M	711.14		
PLUMMER RANDY	58.10		
PLUMMER THOMAS	439.33		
PORTER III EARLE G	839.43		
PORTER ROBERT L	1017.84		
RICCI MARK D	351.03		
RIVARD DANIEL R	821.76		
ROBERTS MINARD JR	1176.18		
ROWE JULIANNE F	1363.89		
SAUCIER PAUL & DIANE	256.21		
SCHULTZ THOMAS E	426.31		
SMITH FOREST B	736.47		
STIMSON NINA M	202.23		
STOTTS MARK S	1034.94		
TALMAGE LINDA J	8.37		
TAYLOR CLARENCE	319.59		